

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **CARL L. PARKER, ROOSEVELT TURNER, ANTHONY WATTS, TRAVIS NORMAN, KAREEM J. HAMILTON, KUNTA KINTA GOREE, TIMOTHY WEDDLE, JESSIE DUNCAN, AND ANTHONY WOMACK** were all indicted on February 8, 2005, by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in East St. Louis, Illinois, in a 9 count Indictment.

The indictment stems from an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Investigation into the distribution of cocaine and cocaine base, commonly referred to as “crack” cocaine, in Alton, Illinois.

Count 1 of this indictment alleges that between January of 2003 and January of 2005 the above-named individuals engaged in a conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than 5 kilograms of cocaine in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846:

PARKER, age 39, of Central Avenue, Alton, Illinois - **PARKER** was also charged in Count 2 with possession with intent to distribute approximately 2 kilograms of cocaine on January 6, 2005, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1);

TURNER, age 38, of Piasa Street, Alton, Illinois;

WATTS, age 38, of North Fayette, Alton, Illinois - **WATTS** was also charged in Count 3 with possession with intent to distribute 1 kilogram of cocaine on December 7, 2004, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1);

NORMAN, age 32, of Garfield Street, Berkeley, Missouri - **NORMAN** was also charged in Count 4 with possession with intent to distribute approximately 165 grams of “crack” cocaine, on November 26, 2004, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1);

HAMILTON, age 30, of Mitchell Street, Alton, Illinois - **HAMILTON** was also charged in Count 5 of the indictment with possession with intent to distribute approximately 60 grams of “crack” cocaine on January 19, 2005, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1);

GOREE, age 27, of Dooley Street, Alton, Illinois - **GOREE** was also charged in Count 6 of the indictment with possession with intent to distribute “crack” cocaine on January 19, 2005, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1);

WEDDLE, age 33, of Pearl Street, Alton, Illinois - **WEDDLE** was also charged in Count 7 of the indictment with possession with intent to distribute cocaine in October of 2004, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1);

DUNCAN, age 54, of St. Louis, Missouri - **DUNCAN** was also charged in Count 8 of the indictment with possession with intent to distribute cocaine on September 15, 2004, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1); and

WOMACK, age 29, of Edgewood Street, Alton, Illinois.

All of the above defendants face a mandatory minimum 10 years of imprisonment up to life imprisonment, a fine of up to \$4 million, and a 5 year term of supervised release after their periods of incarceration.

Count 9 of the indictment seeks to forfeit to the United States proceeds of the conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

In a related matter, the same Federal Grand Jury returned an 8 count Indictment against **BRIAN GREER**.

GREER, age 24, of Locust Street, Alton, Illinois was charged with:

- Count 1 - Assaulting an officer of the United States in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 111(a)(2). **GREER** faces penalties for Count 1 of up to 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and at least 3 years supervised release.
- Count 2 - Possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1). **GREER** faces penalties for Count 1 of up to 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and at least 3 years supervised release.
- Count 3 - Possession and discharge of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c). **GREER** faces penalties for Count 3 of a mandatory minimum of 10 years imprisonment up to life imprisonment.
- Count 4 - Felon in possession of a firearm in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g). **GREER** faces penalties for Count 4 of not more than 10 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both.
- Counts 5,6,7, and 8 - Distribution of cocaine and "crack" cocaine between August 12, 2004 and January 7, 2005, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1). **GREER** faces penalties for Counts 5-8 of not more than 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and at least 3 years supervised release.

The indictments are formal charges against the defendants. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of charges until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

This case was investigated as part of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. Participating agencies included the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Alton, Illinois, Police Department, the Jacksonville, Illinois, Police Department, the Illinois State Police, the Metropolitan Enforcement Group of Southwestern Illinois, and the Internal Revenue Service. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ranley R. Killian.